

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-20 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /125 W

----- 038581

R 211050Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1677

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 4630

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, TH, BM

SUBJECT: THAI FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO BURMA

1. VITTHAYA VEJAJIVA PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER, TOLD US MARCH 21 THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD BE PAYING AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO BURMA STARTING APRIL 10. VITTHAYA INQUIRED ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY OF VISITING PAGAN AND MANDALAY IN ADDITION TO RANGOON, SO AN UPCOUNTRY ITINERARY APPEARS IN THE OFFING.

2. WE TOOK THE OCCASION TO RAISE THE RECENT PEOPLES DEMOCRACY PARTY/KAREN NATIONAL UNION FORCES (KNUF) ATTACKS AGAINST THE BURMESE GARRISON AT MYAWADDY OPPOSITE THE BORDER OF TAK PROVINCE IN NORTH THAILAND (BANGKOK 4572 AND 4499, REPEATS OF CHIANG MAI 136 AND 139). VITTHAYA SAID THIS SUBJECT COULD WELL BE THE FIRST ONE THAT THE BURMESE WOULD RAISE. HE ASKED ABOUT GUB CONTROL OVER ITS TERRITORY AND PARTICULARLY OVER DISSIDENT ETHNIC GROUPS. WE REPLIED THAT BURMA CONTROLS THE GREAT MAJORITY OF ITS POPULATION, MOST OF WHICH IS ETHNIC BURMAN, ALTHOUGH THE GUB EXERCISED MUCH LESS AUTHORITY IN OUTLYING AREAS SUCH AS THE KAREN, KAYAH, SHAN, AND KACHIN STATES. WE ADDED THAT THE PDP WAS LARGELY A NUISANCE FORCE, DIVERTING THE BURMESE ARMY FROM ITS SERIOUS ENEMY, THE BURMESE COMMUNIST PARTY/ WHITE FLAG.

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3. COMMENT: THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS BEEN THE  
KEY AGENCY IN TRYING TO IMPROVE RTG-GUB RELATIONS. ALTHOUGH  
WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT ANY RTG ELEMENTS ARE SPONSORING THE  
CURRENT MADNESS OF THE PDP/KNUF, THEIR FORCES CAN ALWAYS TAKE  
REFUGE IN THAILAND. WE WOULD GUESS THAT THE FOREGIN MINISTER  
FINDS THE ATTACK ALMOST AS UNHELPFUL AND DISTASTEFUL AS THE  
BURMESE DO.  
KINTNER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, PROVINCE, MINISTERIAL VISITS, BORDER INCIDENTS, POLITICAL PARTIES  
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**Draft Date:** 21 MAR 1974  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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